Approved For Release 2010/07/26 : CIA-RDP90-00494R001100710136-8

Rewald secretary cries for brother

But she holds 'no bitterness toward Ron'

By Walter Wright
Advertiser Staff Writer

Ronald Rewald's personal secretary yesterday broke down and wept on the stand for her brother, Sunlin Wong, who went to prison for his role as president of Bishop Baldwin Rewald Dillingham and Wong.

Wong was sentenced to two years in federal prison after he pleaded guilty to two counts of fraud in the collapse of the company and implicated Rewald, who is on trial on 98 counts of fraud, perjury and tax evasion.

Fenlyn Kimura, now a teacher, could not stop tears when she was questioned about her feelings about her brother's plight.

After a short recess in the federal court trial, Kimura said of her brother, "I feel for him. However, he is an adult." She said she had always told her children that, when one is an adult, one is responsible for one's actions.

As for Rewald, Kimura said, "I hold no bitterness toward Ron. He has always been good to me . . . fair in every way, and I don't bear him any ill will."

Rewald's attorneys tried to suggest that Kimura was motivated to testify against Rewald by her feelings about what had happened to her brother.

Kimura testified at length about Rewald's spending to acquire and run the Hawaii Polo Club, an enterprise that cost $26,000 a month for everything from new grass to $250 blazers for staff members and her own $627-a-month Mercedes 450 SL.

Free polo tickets or club memberships were extended to celebrities including Jack Lord, Tom Selleck and Jim Nabors and to political leaders including U.S. Sens. Dan Inouye and Spark Matsunaga, Gov. George Ariyoshi, Lt. Gov. John Waihee and former Mayor Eileen Anderson, Kimura said.

She said she didn't ask questions about the rumors she had heard about CIA connections at the company because it wasn't her business. There was one two-drawer file, she said, to which only Rewald and one secretary had access and which contained papers, some of them newspaper clippings, related to the CIA.

She said those and all of the company's other files were removed from the office by Rewald's security guards the afternoon before Rewald attempted suicide in reaction to a television broadcast raising questions about his company.

Rewald admits taking money from investors under false pretenses but says he did it in the belief the CIA would reimburse him the cost of maintaining his "cover" as a wealthy businessman who used his business and social connections to gather intelligence for the CIA.

The CIA admits using the firm to "backstop" some personnel but denies setting up or running the firm or participating in the alleged fraud.

In other developments yesterday, three more women from Rewald's past took the stand in federal court and said they received $73,000 in checks from him.

A bench warrant for the arrest of a fourth woman, Susan McGinnis, was canceled at the last minute when her lawyer promised she would appear in court today.

U.S. District Judge Harold Fong also canceled a bench warrant for the arrest of Playboy magazine centerfold Cynthia Brooks, who is listed as one of the 400 investors who put money into Rewald's company, on her lawyer's promise she will appear in court next week.

Two of the women who testified yesterday about receiving checks from Rewald said they had "social contact" with him. A third testified to having sex with him three times.

The judge has allowed testimony about the women, despite defense objections, on grounds it may be evidence of Rewald's income and of where investors' money went.

Clothier Andy Mohan testified yesterday about Rewald's purchases of $475 suits, $110 slacks, $55 shirts and a $900 tuxedo. Another vendor said Rewald spent about $5,000 for the massive monogrammed iron gate outside his Kalanianaole Highway home.

Approved For Release 2010/07/26 : CIA-RDP90-00494R001100710136-8